



**TESTIMONY**  
of the  
**CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES**  
to the  
**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

March 2, 2011

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local governments - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 90% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on the following bill of interest to towns and cities:

**S.B. 894,      "An Act Concerning the Consolidation of Noneducational Services"**

The bill would require municipalities to study the "feasibility of consolidating noneducational services within its school system within one year".

This is an intramunicipal cooperation initiative that challenges communities to seek greater efficiencies. There are often duplicative efforts between general government and boards of education, and this proposal can help communities examine and take action on them.

CCM urges the Committee to (1) require school districts to cooperate in this effort and (2) focus more clearly on building and grounds, maintenance and back-office functions such as human resources, financial management and other non-education activities. Such efforts would allow school districts to focus more directly on education services.

Thank you.

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If you have any questions, please contact Jim Finley ([jfinley@ccm-ct.org](mailto:jfinley@ccm-ct.org)) or Ron Thomas [rthomas@ccm-ct.org](mailto:rthomas@ccm-ct.org) at (203) 498-3000.